SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1913.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month. DAILY, Per Year. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year. . 10 DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month.

THE EVENING SUN. Per Month. THE EVENING SUN. Per Year.

Postage to foreign countries added. All checks, money orders, &c., to be made pay chie to THE SUN.

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If our friends who forer us with manuscripts and Nustrations for publication wish to have rejected Plicies returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

A Metropolitan Scene.

The eyes of your native New Yorker become dull and almost blind to the vast metropolitan machinery of life. Still more does he become gradually callous and oblivious to the fact that the cogs which turn the great flywheels of New York existence are oiled with red, live blood. It is so with every metropolis. The dwellers get so that a hero or a victim is too common to deserve more than a hasty glance.

Magazines prate wisely about "human interest" stories and "heart interest" tales as if one had to search to find them. They recall the girl wonder who was going to set the river afire with the genius in her writings, and child marvel that she was she went to MARK TWAIN to ask his advice as to the best spot on this planet to find local color. "Go round the block where you live," said he.

And so with "human interest" and "heart interest": there was plenty of both on Thursday down on the recreation pier at the foot of West Fiftieth street. THEODORE DORKBUSH, aged 4. went down there with his mother to get the air. But he had to play with the big boys and walk along the stringpiece, and naturally fell into the water. What a pity a "movie" operator was not on the job. He could have made a film full of pictures of what? Just an ordinary metropolitan scene, with the machinery at work ofled with real

The mother, she was the mother primeval, that was all. She went to spring for her child, but a bystander pushed her aside and dropped his hat and coat and waited for the curly head of hair to rise to the surface of the man Noas was on duty with a lifeline to pull them up. See the machinery of New York to-day. work? And somehow when they were on the pier Dr. Runyon with an ambulance was there. More machinery. He death.

"England expects every man to do tion so delimited. his duty," said Netson, and the phrase is handed down the ages. But men do wand, and presto! this is "less by only into the wastebasket.

Trainmen:

"Unless the Eastern railroad managers make an about face from their position. every conductor and trainman employed on the forty-three lines involved in the present dispute will be ordered to strike."

ment shall be taken up for considerathe roads. That this is unreasonable, two months to pass a given point. improper, or "a condition tantamount to a breach of faith" we cannot see. Yet the men arrogantly declare that unless their demands and those only are himself, though he could sign it only submitted a strike will be called, and with X, his mark, we fall to appreciate

to indicate the position they take. position of declaring that their de newly assumed primary class dress. mands, which if granted would benefit them greatly at the expense of the fare on illiteracy. The old way was railroads, which means the public, and to work on the youngsters, while the if denied would deprive them of noth-older generation of ignorants died out. ing, may be arbitrated, but that no Now there are infant classes for the question not raised by themselves shall grownups.

be put before the arbitrators. This seems to be a simple proposi-

country?

lam Sulzer.

Governor Sulzer has demonstrated beyond the possibility of question his enthusiasm for direct. Statewide, all inclusive primaries. Twice, with all the weapons at his command, he has attacked the legislative opposition to them. Twice he has been defeated. The issue is now automatically confided to the electorate. At the November election they can register their decision in their choice of members of the Assembly. As the voters are the ones in whose behalf this reform is urged the subject may with entire safety be left to them

Meantime Governor SULZES has devoted to this propaganda a large part through newsdealer or directly of Publication of his energy and labors, while at the same time endeavoring to keep abreast Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun With the constantly rising fide of execuPrinting and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau tive duties, important and pressing for
street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

President and Treasurer, William C. Reick, 170
Nassau street: Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell. dered in the course of his campaign dered in the course of his campaign have not reacted to the serious detriment of other projects nobody informed as to the situation will undertake to say. That the time consumed in the primary struggle might well have been profitably devoted to other purposes is obvious. That the further di version of time and energy to the design. for which the Governor has already done all that platform pledges and personal honor require or suggest, is a present inadvisable WILLIAM SULZER'S

good sense and political sagacity will

unite in advising him.

It is not the only or chief duty of he Governor of New York to try to views of public questions. It is his constitutional function to recommend justice, right and expediency. But it respectable letter. is also his function to perform other duties, executive duties, the burden of which is laid on him by Constitution and statutes. The slighting or neglect of any of these duties is not to be recompensed by zealous and unmatched ardor in other fields. Governor Sul-ZER has struggled valiantly, without regard to his own health or personal comfort, to apply to each department, bureau and enterprise all the time and study it required. That he has failed n any of the multifarious obligations devolving on his office we shall not say, but his best friends and most admiring adherents cannot deny that the extra load of primary reform has drawn beavily on his strength.

From all disinterested admirers of the Governor who are sincere in the desire to see him emerge from his first term with the same amount of popularity that marked his entrance into his present office he will receive the same counsel. He has done all that was humanly possible for direct primaries. Let him stand in this matter on the record he has been at such pains to make until another and more propitious day. Let him concentrate his faculties on the executive and administrative details of his office, which in number and consequence are sufficient to absorb the whole vitality of even waters. The second time the little the most robust man. Let him abandon for a period the political activities dived and had the limp little form that have claimed so large a share of sat upon the axietree and said "See under one arm. And by the time he his efforts and concentre all his gifts what a dust I raise" there would be struggled to the pier somehow Police on those administrative problems which far fewer persons killed by motor care. hre of imperative moment to the State

The Moonlight School.

Imagination seldom roosts in Govrevived the child. That's all. The ernment reports, and a style of visustory is told. And the bystander, the alizing figures grown wearisome by too ordinary hero, why, he ran away and generous indulgence in the Sunday supbegged the crowd not to follow and plements and the trade magazines take congratulate him. But routine "metro- on unwonted charms when it appears politan" machinery forced the police- in their dignified, not to say solemn man to get his name merely as a matter pages. From the United States Buof detail for a report. It was an ordi- reau of Education there comes to bless nary name, Thomas Butler, of 92 Bulletin, 1913, No. 20, Whole Number Horatio street, and then he went along 530, "Illiteracy in the United States about his business. And the little and an Experiment for Its Eliminachild with his normal mother toddled tion." In census language, the canhome unconscious of the fact that vass of 1910 returned as liliterates for moments he had kissed the lips of 5,516,163 persons 10 years of age or over, or 7.7 per cent. of the popula-

The bureau writer waves his magic their duty every day in big cities and a few thousands than the total populano fame goes to them. They are for- tion of 10 [and so forth] in all the New gotten daily as the newspaper falls England States." Change! and it surpasses the combined populations of Boston, Baltimore, Washington, Buf-Will This Ultimatum Be Sustained? falo, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, The subjoined ultimatum is quoted Pittsburg, Indianapolis, Louisville, from the outgivings of President W. New Orleans, St. Louis, Kansas City, G. LEE of the Brotherhood of Railroad Minneapolis, St. Paul, Seattle, Spokane, San Francisco and Los Angeles, a Homeric list. An interesting frivol for the canicular mathematician, to check up the computation. To us, more thrilling to contemplate this mighty host, "with their banners of blackness The position of the Eastern railroad and darkness inscribed with the legmanagers is that in the arbitration | ends of illiteracy, ignorance, weakproceedings brought about by the de- ness, helplessness and hopelessness, mands of the employees the subjects as the imaginative statistician lines of wages and conditions of employ- them up, "in double line of march, at intervals of three feet," extending over tion at the same time, and that in a distance of 1,567 miles, more than studying the programme submitted by twice the distance from Washington the men the arbitrators shall also give to Jacksonville, and, marching twentybeed to the suggestions coming from five miles a day, requiring more than

It must not be thought that because the sleekest, happiest man we ever knew could back a check as rotund as the phrase charging bad faith is used the appulling significance of these facts and figures. Our smile is only for the Thus the trainmen are put in the pose of Government statistics in their

Fashions change, even in the war-

In September, 1911, Mrs. Cona Wil. SON STEWART, superintendent of schools

tion. Indeed, it is simple. The men in Rowan county, Kentucky, and her THE OUTCAST OF THE SEAS. want to play a game in which their associates opened night schools, poet- A 2,000-Year-Did Stone Shark, and a Mod plan is "heads we win, tails you lose." | ically in the vulgate "moonshine Is this the measure of arbitration as schools"; and with the very first conceived by the railroad men of the bright evening came more than 1,200 pupils, men and women, to enroll.

Eager youth was there, and tottering graybeards; from 18 to 36 they ranged.

In two years the movement has grown steadily. It is hoped that an act of day with sea sharks in the waters of the Friendly Advice to Governor Will- graybeards; from 18 to 86 they ranged. steadily. It is hoped that an act of Congress may give the idea national application. Cited examples of its off Zelia and Obock, and we all know the operation include the case of one middle aged man, new to the delights of the pen, who "was so fascinated by the ability to write his name that he wrote days, and was the more elated at every

"From this school, under the instruction of an 18 year old girl, a beginner in the profession of teaching, a preacher 50 years of age was graduated in reading and writing, for the terms of graduation were only that he should be able to read his Bible and the newspaper with reasonable facility, and should write a legisonable facility, and should write a legible letter, and both of these he now can
do to his unspeakable pride and joy. He
signed his name to the assessor's list, for
the first time, after four nights instruction, and wrote the superintendent a legible, four page, enthusiastic letter with a
period at the close of each sentence as
period at the close of each sentence as
denies
graphic arts have preserved to unfold before the scoffing eyes of this sceptical
fore the scoffing eyes of this scoffing eyes of the scoffing e

prise and excessive Joy, learned that and or Marryat and or Clark Russell, father and mother had been attending and you see his belly glistening white and his dental exhibit, which never fails to bring a tear to the eyes of our rural write, and not only was a new world of communication opened to the aged couple but a new Joy and a new uplift and a new mowing machine in the barnyard at home. dignity was given to their absent ones, making them, doubtless, better citizens of their adopted States.

"One father and mother came into school one night with six grown sons, enforce on a stubborn Legislature his three of whom were married, and all voters. Within two nights both parents nd sons could write their names, and measures appealing to his sense of within two weeks they could all write a

"JOHN DEHART declares in his first letter that he would not take \$10,000 for what he has learned. Doubtless, besides the increased happiness and usefulness, the knowledge which he has gained will add that much to his earning capacity during the rest of his lifetime, for he is but 25 years old and belongs to a family of remarkable vigor and noted longevity. what he has learned. Doubtless, besides and remarkable vigor and noted longevity. JOHN has come to realize his possibilities, and has caught a vision of higher achievements, and has enrolled as a regular scholar in the day school since the night

In the face of instances like thes cynic speculations on the morality of sowing the seeds of that darkest, deepest horror the cacoethes scribendi are squeiched, and there is room only for county's moonlight schools.

The five children killed in Philadel phia is an instance showing how careess some auto owners really are. -Brooklyn Democrat.

It is not so much that they are care less as that they suffer from the illusion that their presence at some objective point is of the utmost and immediate importance. They tear down to their in order to be there in season to ock their feet up and read the newspaper. Or they tear out to a country or to Far Rockaway lest the golf course or the ocean become a desert efore they reach the spot. If certain types of automobile owners and chauffeurs would cool off and remember that they are more or less like the fly who It is speed, not carelessness, that does most of the deadly work.

The Consolidated Gas Company's new tunnel under the East River bed is admirable in intention, plan and construction. It will result in great economies to a progressive and prosperous public service corporation. Will it reduce the price of gas?

Grand Central Pers reformed in his ast days and quit selling the Metropolitan Opera House to investors unfamiliar with the wiles of some of ou gifted but ill directed citisens. Yet worthy successor to him is not wanting. An ingenious but unscrupulous denizen of the lower East Side was caught recently offering for sale an op-

Of even greater interest than the final scenes of the New Jersey silk conclusion will have on the precious crew whose members compose the eadership of the Industrial Workers of the World.

TEN MILLION FOR NOTHING. How Rise in Wages Helps, Retreactively,

the Capitalist Class. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is surprising that "Economicus" is worrying over the likelihood of the laboring classes getting something for nothing. That sweet privilege is accorded the capitalist classes only. One cannot conceive a way by which anything can be taken from the capitalists to the benefit of the

workers.

For example, see how this works out:
In recent years the building trades have been strongly unionized. If by reason of the advance in wages the cost of building onstruction increases even as little as 10 per cent, the value of all the old buildings also increases 10 per cent. That means that in a city in which the buildings have a value of \$100,000,000 before the increase in wages those same buildings would be valued at \$110,000,000 after the increase and central would. the increase and capital would be getting \$10,000,000 for nothing. M. P. C. PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 18.

Oberammergau.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Permit me to answer Mr. Otto W. Fuhrmann's letter in yesterday's SUN in regard THE SUN of July 13 published an in-teresting article on "The Passion Play" now in progress at Belsack, canton of Soleure, Switzerland.

Soleure, Switzerland.
Selzack is called the Swiss Oberammergau, and the writer in mentioning this didn't make allusion to the village of Oberammergau situated in the Bavarian Mountains.

C. M. NEW YORK, July 18.

A Sleepless One Cries for Help. TO THE POITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I hope you will, through the columns of your valuable paper, answer my question: Is there a cure for lasom-nia? I have not slept natural since December, 1911. I have used drugs, but they are worse than useless. In pity's name say a word to

ern Monster That Nipped Off a Leg. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: am glad to welcome "Maintop" on shor der with sea sharks in the waters of the 1850 followed the Brandywine, fighting frigate, from San Francisco Bay to Sandy the pen, who "was so fascinated by the Hook, 179 days, with Mr. Shark wishing ability to write his name that he wrote Boatswain Peter Miller the top of the it over and over again for two whole days and was the worse elasted at agenty or didn't. Probably we all have the or didn't. Probably we all have the sharks that we deserve. I admire "Main-top" immensely for the sturdy way he top" immensely for the attention has attempted to rehabilitate the outcast

of the seas.

But if we are wrong about the man eaters of the warm waters we have been wrong for a long time. I myself have seen on a facade of those wonderful stone ruins at Buro-Budor in Java the most ancient version of the fate of the man who

period at the close of each sentence as large as a bird's eye, when he had been a pupil of the school but seven evenings.

"An aged father and mother, parents of fourteen children, all of whom had gone beyond the rooftree, and grandparents of eighty-four grandchildren, learned to read and write, and absent ones, to their surprise and excessive joy, learned that father and mother had been attenting and you see his belly glistening white

But this happened two thousand years But this happened two thousand years ago and is doubtless outlawed now, so here goes for my modern instance: In the late fail of 1901 the United States cruiser New York, flying the broad pennant of Admiral Frederick Rodgers, lay off lioilo, in the Visayan Islands, after having taken a very considerable part in the Samar campaign. A party of blue-jackets, as I remember it, was sent ashore under a petity officer to secure a hostload under a petty officer to secure a boatload of white sand. After the boat was loaded the bluejackets jumped into the sea to clean up and cool off. Suddenly they saw a dark fin protruding above the

was of course forwarded to the Navy Department through official channels and request for a pension in favor of the unfortunate cripple was brought to the attention of the proper authorities, to-gether with the statements of Admiral Rodgers and Captain (now Admiral) Sli-dell Mackenzie, with affidavits from eye witnesses so bulky they could hardly be accommodated in the despatch bag. The request for a pension was denied, though the facts of the case were admitted, because "there is no legislation for the pen squelched, and there is room only for sioning of sailors who have been crippled the heartlest indorsement of Rowan by sharks, and had there been such proision it was not clear that the swim

and bath the seaman was enjoying lay in the strict path of duty."

I was in Iloilo within a few days of this distressing occurrence and more recently I have discussed the matter with the offi-cers who endeavored to secure the modest pension. The official report now reposes in the archives of the Navy Department, where it is accessible to all who would wish to see it. From this same source a copy could be secured to be submitted to the Board of Admirals, the most dignified and convenient agency I could think of when I decided that "Maintop" for all separated from some of his cash to teach him the danger of making broad and sweeping statements not drawn from carefully collated scientific data but from personal experience so frequently mi leading. Stephen Bonsal. WOODBERRY FOREST, Va., July 18.

Man Eaters and Their Teeth.

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir. Frank T. Bullen, fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, London, and who is acknowledged as the British authority on ks. says in his "((1908), page 111: The shark eats man not because he loves

an to eat but because man when he falls overboard is usually easy to get. If the man be a good noisy swimmer no shark will ven-ture near, for they are, though tormented with hunger, a most nervous and timid race, and indeed always seem to lose a great many opportunities through diffidence. Mr. Bullen thus confirms my contention

based on long experience. To say there are no man eating sharks is tantamount to denying the existence of man eating igers or mouse eating cats. Why has nature provided the shark with those for-midable batteries of serrated teeth unless t be to crush, eat, tear and swallow any kind of flesh, human or otherwise? Mr. "Maintop" may perhaps be able to answer his question B. B. VALLENTINE. NEW YORK. July 18.

POLITICAL WARNINGS. Young Voters Advised to Watch Thinkers. Not Fighters.

THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. seems very clear to me that the time to begin to give out warnings relative to mat-ters political is now. It is important that every citizen should find time to watch the politicians who are seeking office and note how they bend their energy to gain their point. The practical politician is neces-sary in public affairs for counsel in consary in public affairs for counsel in conducting a campaign, but it is not necessary that he should always be running for some office. In the campaign of 1912 at the fall election the young voters were led to believe that the man who put up the biggest kind of a fight was the man to vote for. As one who has a knowledge of practical politics and is not an office seeker I advise the young voter and all voters to watch the great thinkers of our country and follow their lead in all coming campaigns in order that the very best results paigns in order that the very best results ay be obtained. GEORGE R. STAGG. IRVINGTON, N. J., July 18. may be obtained

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: General Meade has been criticised because he did not pursue the retreating Confederate army after the battle of Gettysburg. I am a student, or at least a reader of military history, and know of no battle since, let us say 1859, the year of the Franco-Austrian war, in which victory was followed by effective pursuit. I would include the Napoleonic wars if their story could be freed from the embellishments of romance and tales from the battle-

However, I am willing to learn and shall be glad if any one, civilian or oldier, will correct me: but I ask atter to state what troops he, for stance, would use, in case of victory, to eyond picking up a few stragglers. Pasadena, Cal., July 13.

Art Note. The sculptor had just finished the Apollo I "My model was what a summer girl thinks

Is This a Genuine Communication? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: I will go COLONEL ARE SLUMBET. HONESTY IN BUSINESS.

is There More of It in Wall Street Than Among Merchants in General? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A corespondent refers to "honesty in business business men. I cannot agree with all of his letter, for in my experience I have found that there is more real honesty in Wall Street than in the general lines of wall Street than in the general lines of mercantile business. By "Wall Street" I mean the businesses downtown that have rules and ethics made and supervised to a certain extent by the Stock, Cotton,

roduce and Maritime exchanges.

And even under the laws of those exhanges forbidding bucket shopping, spliting of commissions, washed sales &c., there s trickery, fraud, deceit and actual robbery inder the name of trade customs.

For example, a commission merchant sells for a customer May cotton at 10.54. He reports it by telegraph to his Southern client as sold at 10.53 or 10.52, thus skinning (or shaving) a point or two. As a point is one one-hundredth of a cent on a 100 bale contract it amounts to \$5. This done several times during the day nets the office to or \$100. And this, although against the rules, is done constantly—sometimes through dummy brokers to hide the opera-

Stock brokers who are not strictly honest "skin" an eighth now and then. One stock broker I used to know, and who is wealthy, made a pot of money in that way in panick;

But on the whole the Wall Street type of nerchants and brokers is more honest, ecause of the ethics they are brought up under, than the classes of merchants who use false weights, false measures and false labels, and they abound all over the city and country and have no central authority like an exchange over them to check their rapacity.

One cotton mill man of my acquaintance old me that he frequently found in bales of cotton stripped and taken apart in the striphouse of the mill balls of iron, cobblestones, &c., which had been inserted to because there was usually too much red tape in their collection, but he had fremently changed from one cotton house to centage

A butter man in the market told me that some dairies were "all to the good" as to quality and quantity; likewise some of the butter and cheese merchants; but that there were lots of dishonest dealers in butter cheese, eggs and dairy products, more than

the general public knows about.

The same objection applies to cloth mer chants, drugs, patent medicines, &c. There are good and bad merchants, dealers and brokers mixed in the different grades. The right and proper way is to have no dealings

BROOKLYN, July 18. N. R. BALLISTER.

VICE CRUSADES. Comment Upon Bishop Greer's Article in The Sun.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: WIL you permit a comment upon Bishop Greer's "ladder for reforming the social evil" as presented in your semi-monthly magazine

ction last Sunday.
Three rungs of this ladder were cited: (1) "legislation at the foot of the ladder (2) "the power of public opinion," (3) "the influence of the Church on the general morals of the community

It is for putting legislation at the foot of the ladder, and for nowhere mentioning the enforcement of that legislation, that I uestion the value of Bishop Greer's sus generations. Of late we have had legisla on veritably "to burn." From one end of the country to the other we have been piling laws upon laws, inciting public opinion and invoking the influence of the Church through so-called vice crusades, yet there is grave reason for believing that the end result of these crusades has that the end result of these crusades has been to stimulate rather than to check the social evil because others have made the omission that Bishop Greer makes, i. e., have overlooked the fact that an inefficient management of police department and courts, plus secrecy

ecords, provides the means and the cloal or fostering more social evils than the Church can undo in ten years. For example, here in New York we have had many vice crusades. More revolume by the Bureau of Social Hygiene describing in detail the commercial aspects of vice. We have sent inspectors to jail and others toward the electric chair for grafting on vice. Yet, unless this city, the Church, public opinion and the makers of law see to it that the methods dealing with violators are changed in ne with the constructive recommenda-ons of the Aldermanic committee we shall have had all of our excitement for

Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research. NEW YORK, July 17.

ANOTHER HISTORIAN. He Thinks Waterloo Was the Most Deelsive Battle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You orrespondent H. J. Jackson writes that he battle of Waterloo was not a decisive e. This statement is absurdly un-If there ever was a battle in this the Lord." Prov. xx., 27.

Is history that was decisive the battle

As the burning of a candle slowly but battle. This statement is absurdly true. If there ever was a battle in this world's history that was decisive the battle of Waterloo was certainly that one. England had been fighting France, with little intermission, for over a hundred years. The following is a list in which the Engsometimes with allies, were vic-

Blenheim, 1704 : Ramillies, 1706 : Oude Menneim, 1704; Ramines, 1705; Oude-narde, 1708; Malpiaquet, 1709; Gibraltar, 1782; battle of the Nile, 1798; Acre, 1799; Copenhagen, 1801; Trafalgar, 1805; Co-runna, 1809; Talavera, 1809; Badajoz, 1812; Salamanca, 1812; Vittoria, 1813; Madres, 1746; Pondicherry, 1760-1; Wa-terloo, 1815.

After Waterloo Napoleon was captured. placed on board H. M. S. Bellerophon and made prisoner on the island of St. Helena, where he died in the year 1821, and the writer has had the somewhat unique ex perience of plucking a geranium England and France have never fought

NEW YORK, July 18.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I would dvise the Manhattan Philosopher that one of he first principles of philosophy is not to know

ou're a philosopher.

A true philosopher doesn't want praise, ever shout it than a grape vine does of bearing grapes doesn't cry out continually about how has made happy by pouring "out the red jul lushing." JAMES D. DEWELL, Jr. ATLANTIC CITY, July 17.

A Monster Hotel. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Please observe and follow: Hotel St. Charles on Onelda Lake 7 miles wide; 21 m long. We have large hotels "up" the State.

The Pangolinised Shape of Sin. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: I notice tha ne pangolin, an animal that never drinks, has ist died in the London 200 of gastritis. Surely n awful warning this weather, isn't it? BROOKLYN, July 18. CONSUMER.

Green, green birds 'gainst a blue, blue sky, The scream of the parrots as past they fly, The golden shimmer of hot, hot air, And an arid plain 'neath the sun's fierce glare. Shadows lie sharp on the sun baked land, Nothing but shadows and dry, bare sand; A zellow dog goes slinking by And a blue rock pigeon wheels on high. And the pilgrims pass in an endless row, Shuffling, mumbling, on they go; Bent with burdens, and years, and pain. They straggle past in a motley train.

The jackals wail in a distant tope, Wail and wail like a soul's lost hope And I close my eyes to the ceaseless of the grinding rice and a native dr

FERTILIZER FROM THE AIR. MRS. ZABRISKIE IN Dr. Thomas H. Norton's Munograph

Matter of Worldwide Concern. Under the unromantic title "Utilisa-tion of Atmospheric Nitrogen" the bu-reau of manufactures, Department of Commerce and Labor, has caused to be printed at the Government Printing Of-fice a monograph by Thomas H. Norton, American Consul at Chemnitz, Germany. This monograph deals solely with the problem of soil fertilization.

Dr. Norton sets forth at the outset that one of the chief services rendered by chemistry in the nineteenth century was to make plain the dependence of plant as well as of animal life on nitrogen. Because of this dependence the problem of the obtainable nitrogen supply seriously engaged the attention of economists. I would be impossible to supply the world's mands for "combined nitrogen," that in the forms in which it can be used for soil fertilization or from which it can be converted for that purpose, unless means could be devised for extracting free nitrogen from the atmosphere at comparatively small cost. It says that the nitrogen problem of

the day is "almost unique in one respect, the material is abundant; in fact it is unlimited. The difficulty is to bring it into form available for mankind." Elsewhere he quotes high authorities to the effect that the known volume of nitrate bearing substance, not counting the atmosphere, is sufficient to supply the demand for perhaps a little more than fifty years. He quotes one authority as estimating tion the world's supply would be ex-hausted as early as 1972. After that the starvation problem for lack of nitrogen as a fertilizer would be staring the world's

population in the face. unlimited supply o nitrogen, if only it could be converted into forms for use, Dr. Norton's report makes reference to the fact that nitrogen constitutes 78 per cent. of the volume of the earth's atmosphere and 75.5 per cent. of its weight. It is estimated that the column of air resting upon each square yard of the globe's surface contains 5.8 metric tons of about 2,204 pounds each of nitrogen in its elementary state, and that the atmospheric nitroger above one square mile of land is about 20,000,000 tons, or what the world would require in half a century at the present rate of consumption. To extract from quired and to do it so that it can be obtained and used profitably is the prob-lem which has engaged and is engaging nany of the leaders in the science of

Dr. Norton quotes an authority as say ing that in 1898 the bread eaters of the world numbered about 516,000,000 and that they were increasing at the rate of 6,000,000 a year. This authority estimated that it would be easily possible through intensive agriculture by the necessary use of nitrogenous compounds so to increase the yield of cereals to the acre as to put off the danger line far into the next century. Dr. Norton says that the synthetic pro-

Dr. Norton says that the synthetic production of nitric acid from the atmosphere is a "highly specialized process, dependent for the time being on exceptionally cheap sources of electricity." If the atmosphere is to be the future cheap source of electricity then the earth's en velope is not only to furnish the sub stance for fertilizing the soil but is to furnish also the agent for making that substance available.

In conclusion Dr. Norton save le can be regarded as beyond doubt that the present achievements of applied chemis try in this field render it possible for American industry and American agriculture to face the threatened exhaustion of the ni rate deposits of Chile and the demands attendant upon a rapidly growing popula-tion without any feeling of apprehension. The processes already perfected show that there is no early danger of a nitroger famine. The continual perfection of the processes and the appearance at frequent intervals of novel additional methods, as well as the popularisation of the new forms of combined nitrogen, all point to a steady movement forward and to the assurance that combined nitrogen as an industrial product will be furnished on an increased scale with-

Dr. Norton was especially detailed from his post in Saxony to the Department of that the courts would hold the doubinvestigations on which his report is hased. He is himself an authority in seven feet high to be both ence since he studied at Heidelberg. He visited the principal places in Europe in which he could get information, and his technical descriptions of methods are valuable to all who take a scientific interest in the matter. The report is designated by the Gover Agents Series No. 52. Government as

MAN IS LIKE A CANDLE. Whither Did His Essence Go While He Was Burning?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is a tendency in our sceptical age to deny the future life of the soul. Many a pe son takes for his motto: "Let us eat and rink, for to-morrow we die that is a great mistake. The Good Book

surely brings about the final extinction of the candle, so it is with the life of man. The very act of living brings him every day nearer to death, which must inevi tably ensue as soon as the vital force has burned itself out. Before this happens many a man asks himself, "What will become of me after my life is extinguished? Whither shall I go then?" question, however, is a foolish one and is health—in some ca no more justified than if the candle should of these 800 men. This no more justified than if the candle should isk: "Where will I go after I cease to burn?"

The real question is not as regards the future but should be directed toward the past. Not "Whither shall I go?" but "Whither did I go while I was burning or living?" would be the correct form of the question. Man is not dying at the end of his years, but he is rather dying every day of his life. His force of life is being spent by every breath he ex-hales and by every motion he makes. Where does that force go? My answer is that as there is no force in the universe which can ever disappear altogether, so the vital force of man is never lost alto-gether. The sparks of life which are urning in every become entirely extinct, but rather return to the great source of the heavenly fire om which they have come.
New York, July 18.

8. Cohen.

Philosophy and Platitude

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The "Manhattan Philosopher" says philosophy does not pay. It certainly does not, and never did, not even in the days of Socrates and Aristotle; but I will tell him what pays—platitude. Let a man only know how to string

platitude—the more platitudinous the bet-ter—and he is sure to be elected to some public office; then all he has to do is go on the lecture platform and his fortun made. NEW YORK, July 17. STRINUS.

Sequentially. "In the long run we get the things that are best for us."- Best seller epigram. We do. we do-I don't want to be rude-Even if it is penal servitude

Eight short stories in Harper's Magazine for August, with the continuation of Mrs. Humphry Ward's serial, supply abundant material for a fiction number; among the writers are Mr. Howella. Mrs. Wilkins-Freeman, Corra Harris and Perciva Gibbon. Benson J. Lossing's account of the battle of Lake Eric is reprinted. Sir William Ram-say explains the modern theory of atoms. H. Rhodes describes Carisbad and S. Graham the banks of the Jordan, and A. M. Low discusses great stories. There are five poems.

SING SING CRUSADE

Is Moved by "Sun's" Report to Offer Aid for Removal of Convicts.

MAY GET RELIEF BY LAW

Edwin O. Holter Thinks Present Crowding Violates the State Constitution.

It was Mrs. Cornellus Zabriskie of 146 Carroll street, Brooklyn, who was so moved by THE SUN'S account of conditions at Sing Sing prison that she wrote from her summer home in Rhode Island to Edwin O. Holter of 60 Broadway offering \$500 to help move some of the men to Great Meadow prison farm Mr. Holter referred Mrs. Zabriskie's offer to Leon C. Weinstock, New York city member of Gov. Sulser's commission to get a new prison as quickly as possible

The adjournment of the Legislature vesterday without action on the bills to appropriate money for a new prison did not discourage the men who are working to get rid of Sing Sing. Mr. "We all hope and believe that the Legis-

lature will give the money soon after it reconvenes next week. Public sentiment in favor of instant action is now very strong throughout the State, and it will nerease amazingly in the next few days No political quarrel must interfere with No political quarrel must interiers with a work to save men's lives. That's what the abolition of Sing Sing means. When you consider that 65 per cent, of the men there have to be shipped away with consumption, rheumatism in the serious sumption, rheumatism in the serious forms and typhold every year you realize what inhumanity we are showing. "I am glad THE SUN is giving publicity to this cause. Our commission working hard on the plans for the farm prison to replace Sing Sing, and though I cannot disclose these plans at present, be cause they are incomplete, I can say that it will be one of the greatest prisons of the world and will mark an advance

on any institution we have, even Great Meadow. There will be farm work, a dairy, live stock, the usual shops and industries, with others hitherto untried. The actual site has not been selected. "Cruel and Unusual Puntshment." Several things stood out very clearly as the Legislature adjourned. One was that a public subscription would be started to move the men now doubled up at Sing Sing to Great Meadow's farm the State doesn't give the money b next Wednesday or Thursday. Another point was the promise of swift legal

of the pestilent cells if no other way of freeing them quickly appears. Edwin O. Holter, the lawyer of Broadway and member of the executive committee of the Prison Association. has signified his readiness to handle public subscription, and he went fu ther yesterday by pointing to Section V. Article 1. of the State Constitution as a possible ground for securing the immediate release of the men now doub led up. This clause reads:

action to get these 300 extra men ou

"Excessive ball shall not be required nor excessive fines imposed, nor shall cruel and unusual punishments be inflicted, nor shall witnesses be unrea sonably detained."

It is to the phrase "nor shall crue and unusual punishments be inflicted that Mr. Holter points, and he believes a half feet wide, seven feet long and unusual. It was suggested that if ex-Senator Stilwell, for instance, is doub led up with some other man his counsel would not be likely to lose any time in getting him out on a writ of habeas

corpus under this clause. "As a lawyer," said Mr. Holter, "I will say that I believe the release of every man doubled up with another could be secured instantly under this clause of the State Constitution. If relief isn't forthcoming soon from Al bany I'm willing to appeal to the courts on this ground."

Workers Needed at Great Meadow It developed yesterday that a recen report to Gov. Sulzer showed that wor for 380 extra men, more than are nov doubled up at Sing Sing, can easily be provided on the prison farm at Great Meadow. Suppose 300 should be sent they could be quartered in tents unde a reasonable guard for three months to ome. Probably the whole transfer could be made, work provided and the men maintained for the rest of the year for \$25,000. This expenditure, according to statistics, would mean saving th health-in some cases the lives-of 195

O. F. Lewis, general secretary of th Prison Association, said yesterday: "THE SUN is right when it says getting the men out of Sing Sing deno praise as a prison reform. T common humanity. Real prison will perhaps be best exemplified in

Sing's successor.
"If the new prison is to be built that should be at least 1,000 acres of ground There should be in the new prison a better classification of prisoners than now tains. Economy in building should most carefully considered. I be that, as at Great Meadow, the co should build nearly the whole profile saves money and gives the healthful and cheerful outdoor work

How Convicts Made Hay at Valatic Great Meadow farm prison recently sent twenty-five men to Valatie. N. to do the having. The State is built ing a farm colony for women at Vala tie. Two cottages costing \$35,000 eac and finely appointed have been put but no women are there yet. Great Meadow haymakers were he in these cottages. They were impresse about on tiptoe. None of them had see such quarters before. One day one man

"Look what you've done!" committee of his fellows that waited upon him in the yard, "Either > wipe your feet or you stay outdoors The offender was very humble and there has been no trouble since The State is farming the prison It bought at Wingdale and then aba doned. Twenty-five convicts are ting in the crops there now and to

than paying for their upkeep doin Havens Wins Hydroneroplane Rang DETROIT, July 18.—The hydro-aero photed by Beckwith Havens and carried a passenger, J. B. R. Verplanck, flushed the Chicago-Detroit reliability crules of \$10649 o'clock this afternoon. Here was the only one of five starters to flush the crulse, which began at Chicago at Tuesday of last week.